

What Is Claimed Is:

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1. A method of forming an online invention disclosure comprising:
forming an invention disclosure online by entering a plurality of selected information including a first inventor identification information;
as the plurality of selected information is entered, storing the information in a central storage location; and
prompting approval of said first inventor.
2. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of generating an approval log.
3. A method as recited in claim 2 wherein the step of generating an approval log comprises the step of recording the date of an approval.
4. A method as recited in claim 3 further comprising associating the approval log with the disclosure.
5. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the step of forming is performed by a non-inventor author.
6. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the step of forming comprises the steps of identifying a second inventor; and,
further comprising the steps of notifying the second inventor; and,
prompting the second inventor to approve the submission.

7. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of revising the disclosure by the second inventor to form a revised disclosure, prompting the first inventor to approve the revised disclosure.

8. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the step of prompting the second inventor comprises providing an E-mail to the second inventor notifying comprising a hyperlink to the disclosure.

9. A method as recited in claim 1 wherein the step of prompting comprises the step of prompting the approval of an associated document.

10. A method as recited in claim 9 wherein said associated document is selected from a group consisting of an assignment document and a power of attorney.

11. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of allowing access to various users for obtaining the information.

12. An invention disclosure system comprising:

a user computer;

a web server having an identification subsystem;

a database coupled to the server;

said server providing user screens to said users so users provide disclosure information to said server, receiving disclosure information from said

users, storing information in said database,
prompting the user to provide a password associated
with said disclosure; and allowing access to said
disclosure after storing on said database upon
5 entering the password associated with the disclosure.

13. A system as recited in claim 12
further comprising a directory system coupled to said
server whereby upon providing identification
information to server said server retrieves user
10 information from the directory system in response to
the identification information.

14. A system as recited in claim 12
wherein said server creates a user log.

15. A system as recited in claim 14
wherein said server associates said approval log with
said disclosure.

16. An invention disclosure system
comprising:

20 a user computer;
a server;
a database coupled to the server;
said server providing user screens to said
users to prompt said users to provide disclosure
information to said server, receiving disclosure
25 information from said users including a first
inventor identification and a second inventor
identification, storing information in said database,
prompting the first inventor and the second inventor
to provide an approval.

17. A system as recited in claim 16 wherein said server generated an approval log associated with said disclosure.

18. A system as recited in claim 17
5 wherein said server associates said approval log with said disclosure.

19. A system as recited in claim 16 further comprising a directory system coupled to said server whereby upon providing identification
10 information to server, said server retrieves user information from the directory system in response to the identification information.

20. A method of forming an online invention disclosure comprising:

15 forming an invention disclosure online by entering a plurality of selected information including a first inventor identification information and a second inventor identification;

as the plurality of selected information is
20 entered, storing the information in a central storage location;

prompting approval of said first inventor;
notifying the second inventor; and,
prompting the second inventor to approve
25 the disclosure; and

locking the disclosure to create a locked disclosure to prevent further editing of the disclosure when the second inventor approves the disclosure.

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21. A method as recited in claim 20 further comprising the step of generating an approval log.

5 22. A method as recited in claim 21 wherein the step of generating an approval log comprises the step of recording the date of an approval.

10 23. A method as recited in claim 22 further comprising associating the approval log with the disclosure.